

AMBLE URBAN DISTRICT

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

1971

AMBLE URBAN DISTRICT

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

AND

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

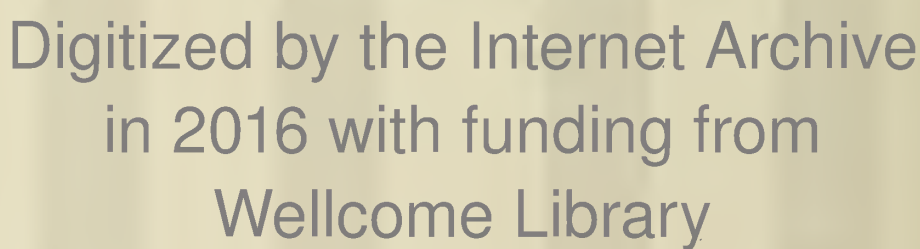
1971

IAN G.P. FRASER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health,
Area Health Office,
Wagonway Road,
ALNWICK.

Tel:Alnwick 2263

J.A. RODGETT, M.A.P.H.I.,
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector,
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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1971

To the Chairman and Members of the Amble Urban District Council

Vital Statistics The return of the General Register Office shows that the population of the town in 1971 was 4,770 persons. This number is marginally higher than that given in the Preliminary Report of the 1971 Census published at the end of the year. The population of the town is just below what it was fifty years ago - at the 1921 Census it was 4,840 persons. This number fell to 4,171 persons at the 1931 Census but at the 1961 Census had recovered to 4,900 persons. During the 1960's there was always a considerable excess of births over deaths and in some years the number of births was nearly double the number of deaths. In spite of this there has been a fall in total population.

In 1971 there were 83 births compared with 80 in 1970. In these two years there has been a fall in the number of births in comparison to the decade of the 1960's. The crude birth rate was 17.4 per thousand population and the adjusted rate was 17.9 per thousand. These rates are just above that for England and Wales which was 16 per thousand.

There were 67 deaths and the crude death rate was 14.0 per thousand compared with 11.6 per thousand in England and Wales. Three quarters of the deaths occurred in persons aged 65 and over and two fifths occurred in persons aged 75 years and over. There were only three deaths in persons aged under 55 years. One of these was an infant death under one year and the infant death rate was 12 per thousand live births compared with 18 per thousand in England and Wales. It is satisfactory to note that the infant death rate is below the national rate. This rate is an indicator of the health of the community and of the medical services available and has not been adversely affected by the comparatively high level of unemployment. Similarly the number of stillbirths is low and the stillbirth rate has been below or no higher than the national rate for the past five years.

Infectious Diseases The number of notified infectious diseases was low during the year. There was only one case of infective hepatitis and this was an isolated incident in a temporary resident and was not connected with the sizeable outbreak that occurred in the community in 1970.

There were eleven cases of measles in January which constituted the tail-end of an outbreak which started in November 1970. It is to be hoped that the recent availability of measles vaccination will prevent future epidemics that have been regular occurrences in the past. The illness causes much misery and a small proportion of cases have serious complications. Vaccination has proved its effectiveness and nearly all cases which occur now have no history of being vaccinated.

The source of an isolated case of infection by a food poisoning organism could not be identified. The patient worked in a bacteriological laboratory where it is possible that she became infected.

No new cases of tuberculosis were notified for the second year running. This is a satisfactory state of affairs and the fact that the ten year average has been less than one case annually gives ground for hope that the reservoir of infection in the community has been almost eliminated.

Immunisation The table on page 6 shows that acceptance of various forms of immunisation for infants remains at a satisfactory level. Few children are not routinely immunised against diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, and poliomyelitis - measles vaccination is gaining in acceptability and in districts where this is high there is found to be a low incidence of the illness. Nearly all recent cases of measles are found to have occurred among unimmunised children.

There was an increased demand for rubella vaccination for adolescent girls compared with the number vaccinated in 1970.

During 1971 the Department of Health advised that smallpox vaccination should no longer be made a routine vaccination of infancy. This procedure had been compulsory between 1853 and 1948 but thereafter recommended only. Worldwide smallpox eradication schemes have reduced the number of endemic countries to less than ten. The risk of importation is now low, the disease can be well controlled by isolation, and vaccination itself carries a small mortality.

Ian G.P. Fraser

Medical Officer of Health

GENERAL STATISTICS

The area of the district was 1,258 acres.

The number of inhabited houses was 1709 and the number of new houses completed during the year was 91.

The estimated mid-year population was 4,770 and this figure was taken when calculating the birth and death rate.

VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	34	43	77
Illegitimate	5	1	6
Totals	39	44	83

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 of the population	17.4
Crude Birth Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor (1.03)	17.9
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	7.0

Stillbirths

Legitimate	-	1	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	-	1	1

Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	12
Total Live and Still Births	84

Infant Deaths (Deaths under one year)

Legitimate	1	-	1
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	1	-	1

Infant Mortality Rates

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	12
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	13
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-

Neo-natal Mortality Rate

Deaths under four weeks per 1,000 total live births	-
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Early Neo-natal Mortality Rate

Deaths under one week per 1,000 total live births	-
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Perinatal Mortality Rate

Stillbirths and deaths under one week combined per 1,000 total live and still births	12
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Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of Deaths -

Rate per 1,000 total live and still births -

Deaths

Males Females Total

39 28 67

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 of the population 14.0

Crude Death Rate multiplied by Comparability Factor (1.06) 14.8

CAUSES OF DEATH

Males Females Total

Malignant Neoplasm - Oesophagus	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm - Intestine	2	-	2
Malignant Neoplasm - Lung, Bronchus	8	-	8
Malignant Neoplasm - Breast	-	3	3
Leukaemia	1	-	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	2	1	3
Other Endocrine etc. Diseases	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	-	1	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	2	2
Hypertensive Disease	-	1	1
Ischaemic Heart Disease	11	6	17
Cerebrovascular Disease	8	4	12
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	4	4
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis and Emphysema	2	-	2
Asthma	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1	2
Hyperplasia of Prostate	1	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	-	1	1
Totals	<u>39</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>67</u>

INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFICATIONS

Measles	11
Infective Hepatitis	1
Whooping Cough	1
Food Poisoning	1

TUBERCULOSIS

AGE GROUPS	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0-15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15-25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
25-45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45-65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

IMMUNISATIONAlnwick U.D., Alnwick R.D., Amble U.D., Rothbury R.D.(Population 28,160)

Disease	Primary Immunisation			Reinforcing Doses		
	Under 4	4-15	Total	Under 4	4-15	Total
Diphtheria	294	4	298	7	408	415
Whooping Cough	292	4	296	3	38	41
Tetanus	294	15	309	8	489	497
Polio	363	9	372	10	403	413
Measles	264	50	314	-	-	-
Rubella	-	175	175	-	-	-

There were 399 live births in the area during 1971 and the number of primary immunisations of children under 4 years of age have been expressed as percentages of this figure.

Diphtheria	-	74%
Whooping Cough	-	73%
Tetanus	-	74%
Polio	-	91%
Measles	-	66%

B.C.G. Vaccination against Tuberculosis

Alnwick U.D.	210
Alnwick R.D.	-
Amble U.D.	-
Rothbury R.D.	68
	<hr/> 278 <hr/>

Council Offices,
Amble.

To the Chairman and Members of the Amble
Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for the year 1971.

The report is mainly statistical with occasional comments. The health conditions of the district remain good, there being no major serious problems affecting the health of the population.

There are still a number of houses lacking amenities which could be improved, and it is disappointing to note that the number of grant applications has not increased. The introduction of higher grants under the Housing Act 1971 may create a bigger demand.

The report shows that 88 houses were provided by the local authority. These were for a special need, (the rehousing of the Radcliffe community and nominated Coal Board tenants). No houses were provided for the normal growth of the Amble population.

I wish to thank the members of the Council and members of the staff for their support.

Yours faithfully,

J.A. RODGETT

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health	Ian G.P. Fraser, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
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Public Officer of Health
Meat and Foods
Housing Officer
Surveyor

J.A. Rodgett, M.A.P.H.I.

Assistant Surveyor

G. Gibbons

Caravan Sites Superintendent

W. Mavin

Clerk/Typist

Miss T. Hunn

Clerk of Works

T. Walkow

Offices: Dilston Terrace, Amble

Telephone Amble 225.

STATISTICS OF DISTRICT

Area in acres	1,258
Registrar General's estimate of the Resident Population	4,900
Rateable Value at 31st March 1971	£125,000
Product of Penny Rate (estimated)	£496
Number of inhabited houses	1,709
Number of Council-owned houses	451

New Houses completed During the year 1971

By Local Authority	88
By any other Housing Authority	-
By Private Persons	3

Action with regard to unfit housesClosing and Demolitions

1. Houses demolished in Clearance Areas	-
2. Houses demolished not in Clearance Areas	-
3. Houses closed and not demolished	4
4. Any other houses permanently discontinued as dwellings and not included in above	-

Repairs

Number of inspections	520
Statutory Notices	Nil

Works effected by informal action

Water closet cisterns repaired	124
Water closet soil pipes	9
Chimney stacks repaired	14
Demolition orders revoked after reconstruction	Nil
Houses in Clearance Areas still in use at end of year as temporary accommodation	1

Rent Act 1957

No applications for Certificates of Disrepair were made during the year and none are in force.

Housing Act 1969

Applications for Qualification Certificates	3
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Improvement GrantsNo. of Separate Houses

Carried out by L.A.	3
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Discretionary Grants

(1) Applications submitted to Local Authority during the year	18
(2) Applications rejected	-
(3) Applications approved	18
(4) Approximate average grant per house	£773.6
(5) Total number of houses approved for grant in the area since the inception of the scheme	313

Tenanted properties	2
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Owner/occupied	16
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Standard GrantsDuring the YearTotal to Date

(1) No. of separate houses for which grants have been made	2	47
(2) No. of houses so provided with :-		
(a) bath or shower	-	-
(b) wash hand basin	-	-
(c) hot water supply	-	6
(d) water closet	2	45
(e) food store	-	-
(f) sink	-	2
(g) H. & C. water at (a) or (b)	-	-

FACTORIES ACT 1961

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No. of Inspections</u>	<u>No. of Written Notices</u>	<u>No. of Occupiers Prosecuted</u>
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
1. Factories in which Section 1,2,3,4, & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authority	2	2	-	-
2. Factories not incl. in (a) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	21	14	-	-
3. Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Auth. (excluding outworkers' premises)	-	-	-	-
TOTALS	<u>23</u>	<u>16</u>	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars (1)	No. of cases in which defects were found				No. of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	To H.M. Insp. (4)	by H.M. Insp. (5)	
Want of cleanliness(S.1)	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	-
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not incl. offences relating to outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ...	3	3	-	-	-

There is one outworker within the Urban District.

FOOD HYGIENE (MARKET STALLS AND DELIVERY VEHICLES) REGULATIONS 1966

A number of food traders are operating travelling shops from premises within the district and inspections were made to ensure that the provisions of the Regulations are complied with.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Class of Premises	Premises Registered during the year	Registered Premises at End of year
Offices	-	11
Retail Shops	2	44
Wholesale shops and warehouses	-	1
Catering establishments	-	6
Fuel Storage depots	-	-
TOTALS	2	62

47 Inspections were carried out at the various premises during the year. No accidents were reported. No complaints were received and no contraventions found.

SERVICES UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

Milk Supply

Samples were taken by the County Health Department, and of the samples taken all were satisfactory.

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS

Inspection and Supervision of Food Shops and Food Hygiene Regulations

Bakeries	2
Bakers' Shops	3
Butchers	2
Cafes	2
Confectioners	11
Fish and Chips	3
Greengrocers	2
Grocers	9
Public Houses & Clubs	8
Snack Bars	1
Wet Fish Shops	1
Butchery (added)	1

Poultry Inspections

There are no poultry premises within the district.

Unsound Food

(Examined and found to be unfit for human consumption)

Hind Quarter Beef	220 lbs.
Ham	35 lbs.
Corned beef	12 lbs.
Sheep carcass	45 lbs.
	<hr/>
	312 lbs.
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Tinned Food

Steak Pasty	1 tin
Beans in Tomato	9 tins
Tomatoes	9 tins
Peas	29 tins
Tinned Meat	21 tins
Vegetables (various)	6 tins
New Potatoes	1 tin
Milk Puddings	4 tins
Soups	8 tins
Milk (various)	9 tins
Fruit	30 tins
Sauerkraut	4 tins
Fish	2 tins

Frozen Food

Ice cream (various)	151 packs
Frozen food (various)	223 packs

ICE CREAM

There are no manufacturers of ice cream in the District.
13 premises are registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream and all comply with the standards required.

Two new licences were issued during the year.

The following tables give figures of animals slaughtered during 1971 within the Urban District. All animals slaughtered were inspected.

	Bullocks	Heifers	Calves	Swind	Sheep	Lambs	Goats	Ewes
Number Killed	186	-	-	-	468	-	-	5
Number Inspected	186	-	-	-	468	-	-	5
<u>All Diseases Except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u>								
Whole Carcasses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
<u>Tuberculosis Only</u>								
Whole Carcase Condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>								
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

The total amount of meat condemned amounted to 207 lbs, the majority of which was liver affected by fluke and cirrhosis and abscesses, and part of a ewe which had suffered injury.

One sample was submitted to the laboratory for analysis.

SLAUGHTERHOUSE (HYGIENE) REGULATIONS 1958
SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (PREVENTION OF CRUELTY) REGULATIONS 1961
FOOD & DRUGS ACT 1955

At the beginning of the year two private slaughterhouses were licensed under the Act. In July one slaughterhouse ceased to be used as a slaughterhouse and the licence revoked on application by the owners.

No animals were slaughtered in the other slaughterhouse.

Up to July 47 visits were made and 659 animals inspected. All animals were inspected.

Slaughtermen - Licensing

12 licences to slaughter or stun animals were issued during the year, one of which was issued subject to the slaughtering being carried out under supervision.

RODENT SCHEDULE

Properties other than Sewers	Type of Property	
	Non- Agricultural	Agricultural
1) Number of properties in District	2195	16
2) Total number of properties (incl. nearby premises) inspected following notification	54	7
(b) No. infested by		
(1) RATS	4	Nil
(2) MICE	3	Nil
3) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification		
(b) No. infested by		
(1) RATS	30	16
(2) MICE	6	-

PETROLEUM (REGULATIONS) ACT 1928 & 1936

11 premises were re-licensed to keep petroleum spirit. One tank test was carried out and one contravention (warning notice) was remedied, also one new tank fitted.

REFUSE COLLECTION

Household refuse continued to be lifted once per week from all properties and twice per week from trade premises. There is no charge for collection of trade refuse. The vehicle used is a Paxit. All kinds of refuse is lifted and special visits are sometimes necessary to lift larger quantities. This is done in an effort to prevent people dumping their refuse on odd pieces of land.

Tipping commenced on a new site within the opencast workings at Newburgh. Later in the year the site was changed to another area.

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT

Facilities are given to ratepayers free of charge to dispose of unwanted articles and materials - a charge is made for non-ratepayers. In some instances a charge is made when the work of disposal is carried out by the Council.

Rodent Control - Disinfestation

The former Braids tip was reclaimed, work starting in January, and for a period migration to the Town area was experienced.

Properties, domestic, commercial and industrial continued to be treated for rats and mice free of charge, and in all 240 treatments were carried out.

No evidence of infestation was encountered on sewer inspection.

Treatment for cockroaches and other insects were carried out at a number of properties, all of them being domestic premises.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

The combined scheme for Amble and Warkworth is progressing.

The existing system continued to work satisfactorily.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT 1964

There are 2 scrap metal dealers registered with the local authority. None of the dealers have scrap yards within the district.

AGRICULTURE (SAFETY, HEALTH & WELFARE PROVISIONS) ACT 1956

There are 16 agricultural holdings in the district and all conform to the standards required.

WATER SUPPLY

All premises within the district are on mains water supply. The Newcastle & Gateshead Water Co. are the suppliers, and 12 samples, taken monthly, have proved satisfactory.

CARAVAN SITES ACT 1960/68

The Council-owned caravan site on the Links was further developed according to the accepted plan and Planning Consent conditions. The standards maintained are in the main higher than those laid down in the Act.

CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

No orders are in force in the district and no complaints were received regarding smoke nuisance or harm smoke emission.

Amble Urban District Council
ANNUAL REPORT OF MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
RELATING TO PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY DUTIES
FOR THE YEAR 1971

SECTION 1 - STAFFTABLE A

Name of Officer	Nature of Appointment	Date of Appoint.	Qualifications	Any other Appointments held
Dr. Ian G.P. Fraser	Medical Officer of Health	1st July 1967	M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.	Area Executive Medical Officer
J.A. Rodgett	Public Health Inspector	April 1962	Cert. Royal Sanitary Assoc. of Scotland M.A.P.H.I.	Surveyor

Address and telephone number of Medical Officer :-

Area Health Office, Wagonway Road, Alnwick. Tel. Alnwick 2263 (Office)

SECTION 11 - AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING DISTRICT DURING THE YEARTABLE B

Ships from	No.	Tonnage	No. inspected by P.H.I.	NO. of ships reported as having had during the voyage infectious disease on board
Foreign Ports	2	538	Nil	Nil
Coastwise	59	13,365	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	61	13,903	Nil	Nil

SECTION 111 - CHARACTER OF SHIPPING AND TRADE DURING YEAR

Passenger Traffic	(Number of passengers inwards	- Nil
	(Number of passengers outwards	- Nil
Cargo Traffic	(Principal Imports	- Nil
	(Principal Exports	- Whinstone
Principal Ports from which ships arrive	-	East Coasts ports

Section 1V - Inland Barge Traffic

There is no inland barge traffic.

Section V - Water Supply

Newcastle & Gateshead Water Company.

Section V1 - Public Health (Ships) Regulations

1. The Epidemiological Report of the World Health Organisation is received by the M. O. H. and a copy forwarded to the Customs Officer who receives the declarations of health coming from ports other than excepted Ports. These are then forwarded to the M. O. H.

2. Radio Messages

Link-up radio telephone through radio Station Cullercoats to ship.

3. Notification otherwise than by radio

Signals received by Coast Guard and communicated by telephone to Harbour Master's Office.

4. Mooring Stations

Should any infectious disease exist on board, the ship is moored to the west jetty and quarantined until the proper steps are taken.

5. Arrangements for :-(a) Hospital accommodation for Infectious Diseases

Isolation for infectious diseases would be provided in Walker Gate Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne.

(b) Surveillance and follow up of contacts

Surveillance and follow up of contacts is carried out by the Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspector.

(c) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons, clothing and other articles

Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons clothing and other articles are carried out when required under the supervision of the Public Health Inspector.

Section V11 - Smallpox

(1) Smallpox cases would be sent by Ambulance to Langley Park Hospital, County Durham. Telephone: Langley Park 214.

(2) Transport would be by ambulance from the Durham County Council Ambulance Service.

(3) Smallpox Consultant Available

Dr. W. Minns, Deputy County Medical Officer, County Hall, Newcastle.

Section V111 - Venereal Disease

Available facilities for the diagnosis and treatment for venereal diseases at :-

General Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne

Section 1X - Cases of notifiable and other infectious diseasesTABLE D

No cases of infectious diseases were reported as having occurred on vessels during the voyage.

Section X - Observations on occurrence of Malaria

No cases of malaria have been reported.

Section X1 - Measures against ships suspected of infection with Plague

No cases of suspected Plague have been reported.

Section X11 - Measures against rodents

As Amble is not a designated approved Port, this section regarding de-ratting certificates does not apply.

Section X111 - Inspection of ships

No ships were inspected.

Section XV - Medical Inspection of Aliens

The port is not approved for the landing of aliens.

Section XV1 - Miscellaneous

The Council own a mortuary which is utilised in making arrangements for the interment of the dead.

